of India have reported that Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Company Ltd. had approached the consortium of banks and financial institutions for rescheduleme nt of the rehabilitation loan given to the textile division and term loan given to DMT division. This request of the company was considered at a joint meeting of the concerned banks and financial institutions held in January, 1986 and it was decided to recommend rescheduleme nt of these loans, subject to prescribed approvals.

(c) and (d) The Reserve Bank of India has prescribed that reschedulement of term loans to sick units may be considered as part of rehabilitation packages which are prepared for viable sick units, on a case to case basis.

Tax evasion by leather exporting firms

2601. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in "The Hindustan Times" dated 5th January, 1987, wherein it has been stated that tax evasion amounting to Rs. 200 crores has been detected in Tamil Nadu in which twenty finished leather exporting firms in Tamil Nadu are involved;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken against the firms by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in "The Hindustan Times" dated 5th January, 1987. The facts of the case are as follows:—

In pursuance of an information regarding claiming higher duty draw-back by furnishing false and inflated consumption data of inputs for manufacture of finished leather, the officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence searched the premises of the following firms on 2.12.1986:—

(i) M|s. Inter Continental Leather Ltd., Madras (Exporters);

(ii) M|s. Khizaria Leathers, Madras (Exporters);

(iii) M|s. Chawla and Chawla, Shiv Mahal, Connaught Place, New Delhi (Consultant);

(iv) M/s. Verma and Mahajan Associates, Karol Bagh, New Delhi (Consultant).

The scrutiny of the seized documents revealed that exporters got the brand rates of drawback fixed with retrospective effect by producing grossly inflated consumption data with the help of their Consultants. Besides, the evidence was also created to show as if drawback claims were filed in time. The Indian Finished Leather Manufacturers and Exporters' Association has blamed the Consultants for the irregularities and have agreed to refund the excess drawback claimed by them. So far an amount of Rs. 73.99 lakhs have been refunded by them.

Government Officers involved in providing Information to Shri S. Gurumurthy

2602. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to conduct an inquiry to find out the Government Officers responsible for providing information to Shri S. Gurumurthy for his articles in *'Indian Express'* regarding Reliance Industries in violation of the official secrets act; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI

P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The Central Bureau of Investigation has registered, and is investigating, a case against Shri Gurumurthy and others under Section 1208 r|w Section 5(4) r|w Sections 5(1) (a) and (c) of the Official Secrets Act in connection with the articles in *'Indian Express'* in which extracts from Government documents were quoted.

Fact Finding Committee on Newspapers Economics

2603. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the report on Fact Finding Committee on Newspaper Economics in January, 1975 mentioned "If newspapers are accepted as public service, it is essential that profits earned from Newspapers should be ploughed back into the newspapers enterprise itself"; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the steps taken to implement this recommendation in case of Indian Express Group of Papers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Notwithstanding the recommendations of the Second Press Commission in this regard, the problem has continued to evade solution due to legal, constitutional and other complexities involved.

Raids conducted on the premises of a writer

2604. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the writer who wrote several articles in Indian Express and on whose premises CBI made raids in December, 1986, made, frequent foreign trips during 1985 and 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what were the sources of financing and the purpose for his trips abroad and the amount of foreign exchange released to him and the actual expenses incurred by him abroad during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Recovery of loan from Reliance Industries

2605. DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:
SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India have directed nationalised banks to recover advances which are over rupees one crore from private companies which have entered market to sell debentures;

(b) whether Reliance Industries have been ordered by Reserve Bank of India to pay Rs. 15 crores (bank advanced loans);

(c) whether the Reliance Industries Limited has repaid the loan; and

(d) if not, what action has been taken against the Reliance Industries Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) RBI has reported that it has not ordered recall of any working capital advances granted to M|s Reliance Industries Ltd. by banks. However, in the matter of loans given by banks to companies connected with M|s. Reliance Industries Ltd. against the security of shares| debentures of Reliance Industries Ltd., Banks have recalled loans aggregating to